

CLAIMS

What is claimed to be new and desired to be protected by Letters Patent is set forth in the appended claims.

I claim:

1. A method for a warning system for use at an intersection of a pedestrian trail and a vehicle roadway, comprising the steps of:

a) providing an emergency vehicle having a first transceiver disposed therein wherein the first transceiver transmits a first signal; and,

b) providing a trail crossing indicator having a second transceiver disposed therein wherein the second transceiver receives the first signal and in response thereto activates a pair of warning lights visible to users of both the pedestrian trail and the vehicle roadway, and, transmits a second signal back to the first transceiver thereby acknowledging to the first transceiver and the operator of the emergency vehicle receipt of the first signal by the second transceiver.

2. The method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

a) providing a trail user having a transmitter thereon wherein the

transmitter transmits a third signal to the second transceiver; and,

b) wherein the second transceiver receives the third signal and in response thereto activates a pair of warning lights visible to users of both the pedestrian trail and the vehicle roadway, and, transmits a fourth signal to the first transceiver thereby indicating to the first transceiver and the operator of the emergency vehicle that a trail user is nearby.

3. The method of Claim 2, further comprising the steps of providing an on/off control for the first transceiver which is controlled by the operator of the emergency vehicle.

4. The method of Claim 3, further comprising the step of providing a visual indication to the operator of the emergency vehicle that the second transceiver disposed in the trail crossing indicator has transmitted the second signal back to the emergency vehicle.

5. The method of Claim 4, further comprising the step of providing an audible indication to the operator of the emergency vehicle that the second transceiver disposed in the trail crossing indicator has transmitted the second signal back to the emergency vehicle.

6. The method of Claim 5, further comprising the steps of providing an on/off control for the second transceiver which is controlled by the second transceiver.

7. The method of Claim 6, further comprising the steps of having the trail crossing indicator flash a yellow warning light to the vehicle roadway and a red warning light to the pedestrian trail.

8. The method of Claim 7, further comprising the step of providing a battery power supply to the trail crossing indicator for providing power to the second transceiver and warning lights.

9. The method of Claim 8, further comprising the step of providing a solar panel on the trail crossing indicator for providing power to the battery power supply.

10. The method of Claim 9, further comprising the step of providing an on/off control for the transmitter which is controlled by the trail user.

11. The method of Claim 10, further comprising the step of providing a visual indication to the trail user that the transmitter is transmitting the third signal.

12. The method of Claim 11, further comprising the steps of mounting a passive detector on the trail crossing indicator that activates the red warning light when an emergency vehicle equipped with a strobe light passive detection system is nearby, thereby warning a trail user that an emergency vehicle is approaching the intersection.

13. The method of Claim 12, further comprising the steps of mounting a motion detector on the trail crossing indicator that activates the yellow warning light when a trail user is nearby, thereby warning an operator of the emergency vehicle that a trail user is approaching the intersection.